

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. An apparatus for managing configuration of an element, the apparatus comprising:
 a computer that connects with the element to receive data from the element; and
 a server in the computer that includes the data in one or more web pages.
- 10 2. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a browser in the computer configured to display the one or more web pages.
3. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a configuration
15 file for holding the data, the server configured to process data from the configuration file for inclusion in the one or more web pages.
4. The apparatus of claim 3, further comprising one or more
 web page descriptions accessible by the server and one or more constructs
20 included in the web page descriptions, the computer further comprising a construct processing module configured with the server to use the data from the configuration file and the web page descriptions to produce the one or more web pages.
- 25 5. The apparatus of claim 4, further comprising a script executable by the server to activate the construct processing module.
6. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the construct processing
 module uses a common gateway interface of the server to obtain data from the
30 configuration file.

7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the element is included in a system having a management node, the computer further operable to deliver at least one of the data from the configuration file and the one or more web pages to the management node.

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8. The apparatus of claim 1, the computer further operable to perform at least one of updating software included in the element, collecting performance data from the element, and operating a troubleshooting tool relative to the element.

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9. An apparatus for performing configuration management relative to an element, the apparatus comprising:

a computer; and

5 a configuration file that receives data from the element, the configuration file accessible by the computer;

wherein the computer formats the data from the configuration file for presentation as one or more web pages, said formatting performed standalone using a server module of the computer.

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10. The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising a browser configured to present the one or more web pages.

11. The apparatus of claim 10, the browser configured to display
15 a web page based on input by a user to the computer.

12. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the computer retrieves the data from the element using a simple network management protocol.

20 13. The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising a construct processing module that updates the one or more web pages using one or more constructs.

14. A method of managing configuration of an element, the method comprising:

- connecting a computer to the element;
- 5 causing data to be transferred from the element to the computer; and
- viewing the transferred data in one or more web pages formatted by the computer standalone.

15. The method of claim 14, further comprising selecting a management function based on the transferred data, the selecting performed using one of the one or more web pages.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein selecting a management function comprises selecting one of updating software included in the element, collecting performance data from the element, and operating a troubleshooting tool relative to the element.

17. A computer-implemented method of providing configuration management relative to an element, the method comprising:

5 connecting with and receiving data from the element; and
formatting the data in one or more web pages;
said formatting performed standalone.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the formatting is performed using a server.

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19. The method of claim 17, further comprising displaying a web page using a browser.

20. The method of claim 17, further comprising transferring data to the element based on input from a user via one of the one or more web pages.

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21. The method of claim 17, further comprising storing the data received from the element in a configuration file.

22. The method of claim 17, wherein the formatting comprises processing one or more constructs to include dynamic content in a web page.

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